- (d) The Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection issues a ruling after reviewing the appeal submitted under paragraph (c) of this section, which is final agency action.
- (e) If the delay in presenting a written appeal has an adverse impact on the operations of the appellant, the appeal under paragraph (b) or (c) of this section—
- (1) May be presented orally; and
- (2) Must be submitted in writing within five days after the oral presentation—
- (i) With the basis for the appeal and a summary of the material presented orally; and
- (ii) To the same Coast Guard official who heard the oral presentation.
- [CGD 78-038, 53 FR 3376, Feb. 7, 1988, as amended by CGD 96-026, 61 FR 33665, June 28, 1996; CGD 97-023, 62 FR 33363, June 19, 1997; USCG-2002-12471, 67 FR 41332, June 18, 2002; USCG-2010-0351, 75 FR 36283, June 25, 2010]

# §127.017 Alternatives.

- (a) The COTP may allow alternative procedures, methods, or equipment standards to be used by an operator instead of any requirements in this part if
- (1) The operator submits a written request for the alternative at least 30 days before facility operations under the alternative would begin, unless the COTP authorizes a shorter time; and
- (2) The alternative provides at least the same degree of safety provided by the regulations in this part.
- (b) The COTP approves or disapproves any alternative requested under paragraph (a) of this section—
  - (1) In writing; or
- (2) Orally, with subsequent written confirmation.

## § 127.019 Operations Manual and Emergency Manual: Procedures for examination.

- (a) The owner or operator of an active existing facility shall submit two copies of the *Operations Manual* and of the *Emergency Manual* to the Captain of the Port of the zone in which the facility is located.
- (b) At least 30 days before transferring LHG or LNG, the owner or operator of a new or an inactive existing fa-

cility shall submit two copies of the *Operations Manual* and of the *Emergency Manual* to the Captain of the Port of the zone in which the facility is located, unless the manuals have been examined and there have been no changes since that examination.

- (c) If the COTP finds that the *Operations Manual* meets §127.305 or §127.1305 and that the Emergency Manual meets §127.307 or §127.1307, the Captain of the Port returns a copy to the owner or operator marked "Examined by the Coast Guard".
- (d) If the COTP finds that the *Operations Manual* or the *Emergency Manual* does not meet this part, the Captain of the Port returns the manual with an explanation of why it does not meet this part.

[CGD 78-038, 53 FR 3376, Feb. 7, 1988, as amended by CGD 88-049, 60 FR 39795, Aug. 3, 1995]

# Subpart B—Waterfront Facilities Handling Liquefied Natural Gas

#### § 127.101 Design and construction: General.

The marine transfer area for LNG must meet the following criteria in NFPA 59A:

- (a) Chapter 2, Sections 2–1.2 and 2–3.
- (b) Chapter 4, Section 4–1.3.
- (c) Chapter 6.
- (d) Chapter 7, Sections 7-6 and 7-7.
- (e) Chapter 8, except Sections 8–3, 8–5 and 8–7.2.

[CGD 78-038, 53 FR 3376, Feb. 7, 1988, as amended by CGD 88-049, 60 FR 39795, Aug. 3, 1995]

## §127.103 Piers and wharves.

- (a) If the waterfront facility handling LNG is in a region subject to earthquakes, the piers and wharves must be designed to resist earthquake forces.
- (b) Substructures, except moorings and breasting dolphins, that support or are within 5 meters (16.4 feet) of any pipe or equipment containing LNG, or are within 15 meters (49.2 feet) of a loading flange, must—
  - (1) Be made of concrete or steel; and
- (2) Have a fire endurance rating of not less than two hours.